

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT  
COVID-19 UPDATE  
(As of 8/9/2021)**

This is an update on the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Court operations for the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit:

**Oral Arguments**

Arguments continue to be conducted as scheduled, with all judges and counsel appearing remotely by video or telephone. We expect fully remote hearings to continue at least through October 2021. Panels will continue to exercise their discretion under the rules to submit cases without argument; to postpone argument to a later date; or to hold argument via video. When argument is held, it will be live streamed to facilitate public access.

**Access to the Courthouses**

Until further notice, our courthouses remain closed to the public. Attorneys and parties who have access to CM/ECF are strongly encouraged to use it for everything, including new petitions for review and original proceedings. If unrepresented litigants have access to email, they are encouraged to submit their filings, including petitions for review and all other pleadings, as PDF attachments, directly to the Court at this email address: [prose\\_pleadings@ca9.uscourts.gov](mailto:prose_pleadings@ca9.uscourts.gov). We also have a drop box in the lobby of the Browning Courthouse at 95 Seventh Street, San Francisco, CA 94103, and the Court continues to receive filings sent via U.S. Mail or commercial delivery services.

**Filing Deadlines**

Because the national response to the pandemic has disrupted services of all kinds, the Court will continue to extend non-jurisdictional filing dates as needed but will now require a motion and a showing of cause pursuant to Circuit Rule 31-2.2. You are encouraged to use Form 14 in lieu of a written motion, or you may request a Streamlined Extension if eligible. As of July 1, 2020, the Court will no longer grant automatic extensions of time based solely on a notice.

**Court Hours & Staffing**

Because we have limited staff available in the courthouses to answer phone calls, we continue to accept and encourage that queries be sent by email to: [questions@ca9.uscourts.gov](mailto:questions@ca9.uscourts.gov). We will do our best to prioritize incoming filings and questions, but there might be some delay in responding.

**Emergency Applications**

A lawyer or litigant who seeks an emergency stay or relief that requires immediate attention should file a request per the instructions set out in the rules, by contacting the court at [emergency@ca9.uscourts.gov](mailto:emergency@ca9.uscourts.gov) or (415) 355-8020.

**Further Updates**

Further updates will be posted on the Court's website as the situation warrants.